

century farm complex. It has been recommended for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

34. Salisbury House (c. 1850): Situated alongside Sawmill Pond and Boyd brook, this is a fine Early Victorian dwelling, 1½-stories with a gable roof and two interior chimneys. It has an elaborate doorhood and an oculus above the doorway. It was built by the Salisbury family, who ran a sawmill here in the middle-to-late 19th-century. Mill remains are still evident.

WATERMAN HILL ROAD

35. House (c. 1810): A 1½-story, Federal style dwelling with a gable roof. The doorway is flanked by paneled pilasters, surmounted by a blind fan. The building has a 1-story side addition, built in 1942, but carefully matched to be compatible with the main house and its cornice detail.
36. Isaac Bowen House (c. 1755 ell, 1795): The oversized and spacious ell with large sleeping loft predates the construction of the main house. The handsomest of its period in Coventry, the 2½-story, gable-roofed main house has a large center chimney and a fine central doorway flanked by fluted pilasters terminating in Ionic capitals, and capped by a pediment with a semicircular fanlight with tracery. The Bowens were the first major landowners in the area and were active in town affairs from the time of the town's incorporation. Of the many houses built by the family, this is the finest and the only one that survives. It has been recommended for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

37. QUIDNICK

In the 18th century, the land between Anthony and Quidnick was the site of a village referred to as "Greeneville." It was named for the Greene family who came to Coventry in the mid-18th century to set up a forge to produce ships' anchors. Other members of the many branches of the Greene family settled here and early accounts say it was a thriving commercial and industrial community until the forge discontinued production in about 1795. (See Anthony for further information on the Greene family.) Then Greeneville became the site of a paper mill, sold to Stephen Taft in 1811. He converted the mill to cotton and built several small houses; the village was known as Taftville until it was sold to A. & W. Sprague in 1846. The Spragues also bought Quidnick Pond and turned it into a reservoir. A massive, new, stone mill was built in 1848 and the present well planned village was laid out: single-family houses along North Street and 2-family houses on

South Street, a brick company store (now Moore's Garage) and a superintendent's house (now Manny's Restaurant) located on Washington Street, along with several multi-family tenements or boarding houses. Mill houses (now demolished) lined Quidnick street directly opposite the mill and a company farm and piggery were contained nearby within massive granite walls, since torn down. The Number Two mill was built in 1869, southeast of the 1848 mill, and had a separate dam. Quidnick became the jewel of the Sprague textile empire (one of the most important firms in Rhode Island economic and industrial history). Textile manufacture continued into the 20th century, but the site is presently occupied by American Hoechst, a chemical dye-stuff manufacturer. The village today is still dominated by the mills, but the streetscape is much changed. The view of the superb granite mills is blocked by an aluminum warehouse, the granite farm walls are gone, as are all the houses (save one) that faced the mill, and the other company buildings along the main street (Washington Street) have been much altered and converted to new uses. The street itself has been widened and this has done much to disrupt the 19th-century village streetscape. Despite the changes, Quidnick still retains much of its village plan, with neat rows of houses and its reason for being--the two granite mills--intact.

FAIRVIEW AVENUE

- 37-A. Fairview Avenue streetscape: A streetscape comprising early mill houses and Greek Revival dwellings interspersed with later Victorian houses. Fairview Avenue was a well travelled portion of the Coventry-Cranston Turnpike; built in 1814-1815 and financed by Richard Anthony, it provided access to Providence from the Anthony mills.
- 37-B. Quidnick Baptist Church (1885): Built by Horace Foster (no relation to the master mason of the same name, who built the mill complex), it is a much altered Queen Anne style, formerly clapboard, gable-roofed church building, with a conical side tower and modified portico side entrance.

NORTH STREET

- 37-C. Mill Houses (c. 1815): Eleven early 19th-century, 1-family mill houses; 1½-stories with steeply pitched roofs and end chimneys. These smaller cottages, only three bays wide, are remnants of the mill village of Taftville.

PULASKI STREET (formerly the Crompton Road)

- 37-D. House (232 Pulaski Street; c. 1885): A Late Victorian 2½-story, frame house with a bracketed mansard roof with gable

dormers, set on a high English brick basement, with a 2-story front porch supported by turned posts. It was the property of Thomas Finan in 1895.

- 37-E. House (271 Pulaski Street; c. 1860): An Italianate, bracketed, 1½-story gable-roofed farmhouse with a center gable, a heavy bracketed cornice with pendants, a 1½-story side-ell with a partially enclosed porch. The doorway has an elaborate hood. It was the property of Paul Ash in 1892, who ran a liquor store and livery stable on the property.

QUIDNICK STREET

- 37-F. Number One Mill (1848-1849): Built by Horace Foster, master mason, for A. & W. Sprague, as a cotton mill. The mill, built of granite from the Sprague-owned quarry at Oneco, Connecticut, is four stories high with a clere-story monitor roof and a central tower. The belfry on the tower has been removed. The mill has been modernized for use as offices and the fenestration has been altered.
- 37-G. Number Two Mill (1869): Built by Horace Foster for A. & W. Sprague, this smaller granite mill is three stories high with a pitched and dormered roof and a central stair tower. Presently it is used for storage.
- 37-H. Mill House (c. 1848): A 1½-story, Greek Revival mill house with a gable roof and small shed dormer. This is the only house left of the many that lined this street facing the mill. It is set on high ground; a portion of the heavy granite retaining wall survives.

SOUTH STREET

- 37-I. Mill Houses (c. 1848): Five, 1½-story, 2-family mill houses with gable roofs, small shed dormers and two interior chimneys.

WASHINGTON STREET

- 37-J. Mill Houses (1849): A group of 4-family tenements lining both sides of the street; many have been altered. They are 2½-story, Greek Revival tenements with gable roofs, two interior chimneys and pilaster cornerboards. Some have attached porch entrances with shed roofs.
- 37-K. Quidnick Company Store (487 Washington Street; 1849): A 2½-story, brick, mill store, built by Horace Foster for A. & W. Sprague. It is presently used as Moore's Garage.

- 37-L. Superintendent's House (495 Washington Street; c. 1848): A frame 2½-story dwelling with a gable roof and portico entrance. Much altered, it is used as a restaurant. This was the home of Albert Knight, the superintendent of the Quidnick Mills in 1892.
- 37-M. Railroad Bridge: Built originally in the mid-19th century for the Hartford, Providence and Fishkill Railroad. The massive stone piers constructed by Horace Foster, date from that period, although the bridge itself is an early 20th-century replacement.
- 37-N. Mill Houses (533, 535 and 537 Washington Street; c. 1848): A cluster of three, 1½-story, gable-roofed Greek Revival dwellings, set gable end to the street, overlooking the Pawtuxet River and the railroad bridge.

38. RICE CITY

Rice City is located in northwestern Coventry. The proposed Rice City Historic District is comprised of a 2-mile stretch along the Plainfield Pike (Route 14), with the village center located at the junction with Vaughn Hollow Road and the former industrial and commercial center located at the junction of Flat River Road (Route 117). The settlement is traditionally said to have been founded in 1736 by Adam and Gabriel Love and was located along the "Great North Road," built in 1714. In 1794, this road, running from Providence to Norwich, was repaired and taken over by a turnpike company and the Plainfield Turnpike became the second toll road in Rhode Island. Rice City was located halfway between Providence and Norwich and became a popular overnight stop for the stagecoach lines. Located along the turnpike at Rice City were a tollgate and booth where the tolls were collected. The tollbooth still stands, one of the few remaining in Rhode Island. Due to the heavy traffic along the road, three taverns prospered here by the end of the eighteenth century. It was Samuel Rice, the innkeeper of Rice Tavern, who, on opening day in 1796, named the village "Rice City." At midnight, he is reputed to have climbed up to the ridge pole of the tavern with a bottle, which he smashed against the chimney to christen the building and the surrounding area. Rice City had a succession of churches located here in the 18th century and was at that time the religious center of western Coventry. The present church (1846) is the third on virtually the same site, replacing an 1815 church, which displaced the first, built in 1783. Rice City was divided into two school districts: Rice City and the McGregor District; and the three schools that were built still stand. The oldest school, the

Democrat School, was a private school, built by subscription before 1812. It was sold to the public in 1817 and served the village until 1846, when the new schoolhouse was built. The McGregor District School, built in 1812 on Gibson Hill Road near the Connecticut border, closed in 1907 and has since been moved, although not far; today it is in use as a chicken coop. The two village schools, the church and the tavern serve as the visual focus of the village. Vaughn Hollow, located just north of the village center was the site of several small, seasonal gristmills and sawmills, supplying Rice City and its environs. The hollow is named for the Vaughn family, who settled here in the early 18th century and ran the mills. To the southwest, near the intersection with Route 117, is Fairbank's Corner. Located on the Moosup River, it was the site of several milling enterprises in the first half of the 19th century. By mid-century, the Fairbank's store, tailor shop and slaughterhouse became the commercial center not only for the village but drew many customers from nearby Foster and Connecticut. By the latter half of the 19th century, depopulation had begun. The stagecoach lines discontinued service as the railroad became more important. With the change in transportation, traffic declined and the turnpike no longer served as the primary trade route. When the railroad line was built through western Coventry in 1854, it bypassed Rice City. The station was located one and a half miles to the southeast and generated the new village of Greene. Maps reveal that many Rice City residents moved to Greene by 1870. The post office closed and relocated at Greene; most of the farmsteads along Gibson Hill Road were abandoned by 1895. The Fairbank store closed in 1881, and none of the stores that were established after that time had any similar impact in bringing people to Rice City. Rice City began as an 18th-century farming settlement whose growth was generated by the turnpike trade and the stagecoach lines. Now a sleepy roadside settlement undisturbed for a century, except for some residential development on its outskirts, Rice City remains relatively unchanged, retaining its architectural and historical integrity. The Rice City Historic District has been approved for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

BARBS HILL ROAD

- 38-A. Tamarack Farm (1824): Built by John Vaughn who ran sawmills and gristmills in the hollow. It is a handsome, 1½-story, gable-roofed farmhouse, set on a high stone foundation and attached to outbuildings.

- 38-B. Caleb Vaughn House (c. 1750, 1840): Built by Caleb Vaughn, one of the incorporators of the town of Coventry. A 1½-story, 5-bay, gable-roofed, center-chimney dwelling with a 1-story side addition. The house was moved from the top of the knoll behind the present site in 1840. Rebuilt at that time, its present appearance owes much to the Greek Revival--its facade articulated by arched, paneled pilasters serving as corner boards and door enframement.
- 38-C. Bates House (c. 1745): A 1½-story, 5-bay, gable-roofed dwelling with a rebuilt center chimney and a rear ell; the windows are very close to the eaves. The central doorway has side lights. William and Francis Bates ran a gristmill in the hollow.
- 38-D. George Vaughn House (early 19th century): A 1½-story, gable-roofed dwelling, five bays wide with a center chimney; the windows are close to the eaves. The central doorway has side lights. The house was rebuilt in 1852 and a side addition was added.

FLAT RIVER ROAD-Route 117

- 38-E. George Parker House (c. 1774): A 1½-story, 5-bay house with a gable roof and a center chimney, with a dentil course at the cornice line and a fine central doorway with side lights framed by paired fluted pilasters. The 3-bay side addition was built c. 1805. It was the home of Ezra D. Bates, a local tailor in the mid-19th century.
- 38-F. Bates Tailorshop (c. 1850): A long, 1-story, shingled, gable-roofed shed, part of which was the 19th-century tailorshop of Ezra D. Bates, who lived directly opposite.

PLAINFIELD PIKE - ROUTE 14

- 38-G. John Greene House (1732, 1760): A 1½-story, 5-bay house with a steeply pitched roof, shed dormers and a center chimney. The 2-bay, 1-story ell predates the main house. According to deeds, the house was sold in 1778 by John Greene to John Kelly.
- 38-H. Tollbooth: A small 1-story, gable-roofed, booth-like structure made of unfinished vertical boards. The entrance is at the gable end, with a small window opening to the right of the door. It was used as a tollbooth for the Plainfield Turnpike from 1794 to 1866 and is one of the few remaining tollbooths in Rhode Island. According to local belief, this structure actually predates development of the "Great North Road" as a tollroad. The building is said to have been built in 1732 and was used as a relay--remounting station.

- 38-I. Rice Tavern (c. 1796): Built by Samuel Rice, the tavern stands two-and-a-half stories high, five bays wide, with a gable roof and center chimney. It was an overnight stop for the Providence to Norwich stage. It ceased being a tavern by 1866 and was converted to a residence for Dr. P. K. Hutchinson, the local physician and surgeon.
- 38-J. House (c. 1840): A Greek Revival, 1½-story house, five bays wide, gable-roofed with gable dormers with a 1-story side ell with an open porch.
- 38-K. Isaac Fisk Farm (1890): A 1½-story, gable-roofed Late Victorian house with a side ell, set on a white quartz foundation. The central doorway is flanked by bay windows whose roofs support an open porch. To the right of the main house stand four other structures; an out-house (1887); a small cottage (said to be the c. 1742 ell of the first house on the site); another, larger, late 19th-century cottage; and a shed-like structure which housed the blacksmith's shop. Isaac Fisk was the blacksmith in the late 19th century.
- 38-L. Fairbank Store (c. 1868): A 2½-story, bracketed Victorian building with a gable roof and gable dormers, set gable end to the road. The open attached porch across the facade is a later addition. The building was used as a general store until 1881, selling meat, groceries, clothing and furniture. An open walkway at the rear connects it with the main house.
- Fairbank House (1826): A small, gable-roofed, 1½-story, granite, Greek Revival cottage with two end chimneys and a large shed dormer with Gothic lights probably added in the late 19th century. The Moosup River runs through the property and was dammed as early as 1811 when a gristmill and a carding mill were built here. George Fairbank, for whom the "corner" is named, settled here in 1826. He built a woolen mill which served the many local farmers who raised sheep; it was said that they could bring the wool to Fairbank's mill to have it processed, after which finished articles of clothing were produced by seamstresses in the small tailorshop opposite the mill. The mill burned in 1866 and was never rebuilt. Its ruins are under the approach to the bridge across the Moosup, just west of the complex.
- 38-M. McGregor Tavern Site (1783): The tavern burned at the turn-of-the-century. This is an interesting archaeological site (containing foundation ruins), for this tavern was the only one of the three in Rice City to become a temperance tavern, doing so in 1831.

38-N. House (c. 1845): A Late Greek Revival, 1½-story, 5-bay, gable-roofed, center-chimney dwelling with doric pilaster corner boards. The central doorway has a hood supported by paired brackets; the window lintels are supported by smaller brackets.

38-O. McGregor District School (1812): A 1-story, 1-room schoolhouse with a gable roof. The school closed in 1907. The building was more recently moved from its original location, on the eastern side of Gibson Hill Road, to the west side, nearer the Plainfield Pike; it is presently being used as a chicken coop.

38-P. Gibb's Tavern Site (1791): The tavern was located adjacent to Carbuncle Pond--a local natural landmark and the setting for several Indian legends. Tradition says that the Indians owned a carbuncle, a valuable gem, which they feared the settlers would steal; in order to prevent this they threw the carbuncle into the pond. The Gibb's Tavern burned in 1924, but the foundations and the chimney base are still visible as well as the retaining wall and foundations of a hired hand's house--with a 19th-century pot-bellied stove standing in the cellar hole.

38-Q. Place Homestead (c. 1790): A 1½-story, 5-bay dwelling with a steeply pitched roof, a 2nd-story end overhang and a rebuilt center chimney. The open porch was added after 1894. The family cemetery is adjacent. There are numerous farm outbuildings.

38-R. Fairbank's Tailorship (c. 1835): A 1½-story, gable-roofed Greek Revival Cottage, only three bays wide, used as a tailorshop by George Fairbank. Seamstresses were paid in goods from the store.

Fairbank's Barn-Slaughterhouse (c. 1870): A large barn-like structure with two cupolas, used as a slaughterhouse by George Fairbank and his son Elbridge.

POTTER ROAD

38-S. House (c. 1855): A mid-19th-century, 1½-story, 4-bay house with a center chimney. It is set back in the woods, off the road.

38-T. Potter House (1852): A 1½-story, 5-bay gable-roofed house, altered by a front projecting porch enclosure. The house was built on the site of the original Potter homestead of c. 1754.

VAUGHN HOLLOW ROAD

38-U. C. B. Andrews' Store (c. 1885): A late 19th-century, 1½-story, gable-roofed building, incorporating a general

store and residence. It is now used as a dwelling.

- 38-V. Nathan Corey House (late 18th century): A 1½-story, 5-bay dwelling with a gable roof; it was extensively altered in the late 19th-century by the application of cut shingles and a new pedimented porch entrance. Nathan Corey was a member of the first church in Rice City in 1783 and later subscribed to the Democrat School.
- 38-W. First Christian Church of Coventry (1846): A Greek Revival, gable-roofed church building with a square enclosed belfry and two front doors at the gable end. Originally a Baptist congregation formed in 1813, it changed its affiliation to the United Church of Christ in 1881. The most influential church in western Rhode Island in the 19th century, it achieved prominence mainly through the teachings and character of Elder James Burlingame, who presided over the church for over fifty years.
- 38-X. Rice City School (1846): A Greek Revival, 1-room public school with a gable roof and open belfry. Set gable end to the road, it has two front doors. The school closed in 1949.
- 38-Y. Democrat Schoolhouse (pre-1812): A small, 1-room, schoolhouse with a gable roof, it was built by public subscription as a private school and was sold to the public in 1817 for \$60 by Sally and Ebenezer Rice. It served as the village schoolhouse until 1846, when the new school (38-X) was built. At this date, this school building was moved from the tavern lot to the opposite side of Vaughn Hollow Road.
- 38-Z. Obadiah Potter House (1804): A 1½-story, 5-bay, frame house with a steeply pitched roof and a center chimney; the windows are close to the eaves. The 1-story side porch is a later addition. The wellhead dates from the mid-19th century. Obadiah Potter ran a store here in the early 19th century.

39. SUMMIT

Though located on a ridge between the watersheds of the Flat and Moosup Rivers, the area now called Summit was known as Perry's Hollow in the 18th century. It was the site of a sawmill, gristmill, store and no more than five houses. The village grew up when the Hartford, Providence and Fishkill Railroad came through in 1856 and established a station. The village's name became "Summit" because it was the highest point on the railroad line. The railroad is gone and the depot demolished, although the other public buildings have survived.

FLAT RIVER ROAD-Route 117

- 39-A. Summit Baptist Church (c. 1865): A simple, small church building with a gable roof and a small belfry. The projecting, enclosed, gabled entryway was added after 1900.
- 39-B. The Summit Free Library (1885): Formerly Nixon's Hall, it was converted to library use in this century. It is a simple gable-roofed building with two front entrances, enhanced by the addition of elaborately modillioned and bracketed doorhoods.
- 39-C. House (c. 1820): A 1½-story, gable-roofed house with a 5-bay facade, large center chimney and 1-story side ell. The building has curious fenestration--narrow 4-over-4 windows.

LOG BRIDGE ROAD

- 39-D. House (c. 1860): A mid-19th-century, 1½-story house with a Victorian portico entrance; a mansard roof was added later in the 19th century.

TIOGUE

Located one mile southeast of Washington on Arnold Road, this tiny hamlet was the site of a cotton yarn mill referred to as "Pleasant Factory" in the early 19th century. In the hands of the Anthony brothers (Jabez, William and Edward) it became a rope, cord and banding mill by 1850. A steam-driven rope walk, 1080 feet long, stood nearby and produced anchor ropes until the Spanish American War. The hamlet was renamed "Barclay" by the Anthonys, who were Quakers, for Robert Barclay, a prominent English leader of the Society of Friends. Situated near Lake Tiogue was the Arnold Farm (demolished), which gave its name to Arnold Road. This area has seen much 20th-century development. There are many lakeside summer cottages, some dating back to the first two decades of the 20th century, and many fine new homes have since been built in the area. Never a sizeable settlement, virtually all traces of "Barclay" have been obscured by 20th-century subdivisions.

ARNOLD ROAD

40. Sam Tarbox House (c. 1820): An early 19th-century, 1½-story dwelling, gable-roofed with a center chimney and a central doorway with a transom. It was the property of Sam Tarbox in 1851.